

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 EB-07 SAM-01 PM-04 L-03

NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /051 W

----- 033760

P 211727Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6830

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2577

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: ELECTIONS: PROBABLE RESULTS

REF: (A) LISBON 2341 (DTG 091719Z APR 76), (B) LISBON 1791
(DTG 191832Z MAR 76)

SUMMARY: FINAL SOUNDINGS HERE INDICATE APRIL 25 ELECTION RESULTS
LIKELY TO BE: PS, 33 PERCENT; PPD, 29 PERCENT; CDS, 17 PERCENT;
PCP, 11 PERCENT; FAR LEFT PARTIES, 4 PERCENT; NULL AND BLANK
VOTES, 4 PERCENT; FAR RIGHT PARTIES, 2 PERCENT. END SUMMARY.

1. PROBABLE RESULTS: ASSESSMENT OF MEAGER AVAILABLE POLLING
DATA, REGIONAL SOUNDINGS BY EMBASSY OFFICERS, VIEWS OF PARTY
OFFICIALS AND INFORMED LOCAL OBSERVERS, PLUS PROLONGED CONTEMPLA-
TION BEFORE OUR OWN HAZY CRYSTAL BALL INDICATE RESULTS OF
APRIL 25 ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS LIKELY TO BE:

-- PS, 33 PERCENT (37.9 IN 1975);
-- PPD, 29 PERCENT (26.4)
-- CDS, 17 PERCENT (7.6);
-- PCP, 11 PERCENT (12.5);
-- MDP (NOT RUNNING THIS YEAR) (4.1);
-- FAR LEFT PARTIES, 4 PERCENT (4.0);
-- NULL AND BLANK BALLOTS, 4 PERCENT (6.9);
-- FAR RIGHT PARTIES, 2 PERCENT (.6).

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2. CONSIDERATIONS: FOREGOING ESTIMATE TAKES INTO ACCOUNT

THE FOLLOWING:

- A FINAL PS SURGE HAS THUS FAR FAILED TO MATERIALIZE.
- THE PPD APPEARS UNABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE APPARENT SHIFT OF THE ELECTORATE TO THE RIGHT. ONLY THE PARTY'S SUPERIOR ORGANIZATION WILL PREVENT A FURTHER INCREASE IN THE CDS TOTAL.
- A LARGER ABSTENTION RATE THIS YEAR WILL COMBINE WITH A REDUCED NUMBER OF BLANK VOTES AND FORMER MDP VOTES TO KEEP THE PCP ABOVE 10 PERCENT DESPITE A DROP IN VOTER SUPPORT.
- THE CDS LACK OF ORGANIZATION IS LIKELY TO STOP THE PARTY FROM WINNING THE TWENTY PLUS PERCENT CONFIDENTLY PREDICTED BY PARTY LEADERS.

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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